

GENTLE SHOWERS OF SPRINGTIME ARE WONDERFUL THINGS FOR THE FARMERS AND PHILLIES

NECK-AND-NECK RACE IN AMERICAN LEAGUE IS DRAWING GOOD CROWDS

Virtually Every Game Being Closely Contested—Clubs in Ban Johnson's Circuit Are More Nearly Equal in Strength Than in Recent Years

THE great number of extra inning and other close games in the American League proves that the teams are exceedingly well balanced and that the race is going to be a close one throughout the season, provided no clubs are deprived of their power to such an extent that they cannot keep up the present pace.

It is remarkable that the draft should have hit the American League clubs in such a way that their playing strength has been more nearly equalized than in any season in recent years. Although the Red Sox have a slight lead in Johnson's circuit, it is not so great that a two or three day slump would not permit the White Sox, Yankees or Cleveland from going to the top, provided, of course, that one of these clubs had a corresponding winning streak.

Detroit is guarding the rear, but even the Tigers are far from hopelessly behind. A series of good breaks for Jennings' men would send them flying toward the top in rapid time and it is not improbable that such a thing will happen if Huggins can get better work out of his pitching staff. At present the Tigers' hurlers are the big drawback to their success. The fact that they have not been shut out this season shows that they have the offensive strength.

This evenly balanced race in the American League is having a healthy effect on the gate receipts. In virtually every city in the league the receipts have been much better than hoped for and should the race go on as now with the clubs constantly changing positions the year will be a big success in spite of the war.

Another Ex-Major Leaguer Resurrected

MILLER HUGGINS has been on the lookout for more and better pitchers. He has been of the opinion for some time that if he could get a couple of dependable hurlers he would soon displace the Red Sox from their berth at the top. Hugh Bedient, the former Red Sox hurler, appeared to be coming back into form, so Huggins is going to take a chance on him.

If Bedient has the Indian sign on a few of the American League clubs as he had on the New York Giants in the memorable eight-game world's series of 1912 he surely will be a worthy acquisition to the team.

Bedient is badly needed by the Yankees now because Bob McGraw, a youngster who had promising ways, has been called to report to his local draft board. This, with the loss of Bob Shawkey, has put Huggins in the hole a number of times. In spite of this, however, the Yankees are closing up their end well and going at a good clip, thanks to some heavy and timely hitting.

John McGraw no doubt wishes Bedient had joined the Yankees in 1912 instead of 1918. In the world's series of that season he proved to be the Giants' Nemesis. He took part in four games of the series. He won the fifth contest from Matty and pitched the last inning of the eleven-run tie in which Matty was in the box for New York. Besides that he finished the last inning of the third game and hurled the first seven innings of the final game.

During the eight years he has been in baseball Bedient has pitched 1433 innings, opposing 5431 batters. He has allowed 502 runs and 1359 hits, given 349 bases on balls and has fanned 699 batters. This record includes the games he played with Fall River, Providence, Boston Americans, Buffalo and Toledo.

Perkins Developing Into Clever Receiver

CY PERKINS, in spite of the handicaps under which he has to labor, is rapidly developing into a regular catcher. That Mack had faith in his ability was proved when he sold Chester Thomas to the Cleveland club.

Since the season began Perkins has come to be regarded by Shibe Park fans as at least as good if not better than McAvoy. The most encouraging feature is that Perkins is improving with every game. He has all the mechanical assets that a catcher needs. He throws low, fast and accurately to second base and gets his legs off quickly from any position. Furthermore, Cy is brimful of ginger. He is always in the game and is always trying to keep his comrades on their toes. He talks to his pitcher constantly and never allows a trifle like 3 to 0 to stop him from telling his boss that he has it all over the batsman.

A young pitcher breaking into the ranks of the Athletics hasn't nearly the same chance to learn and learn quickly that other receivers of the Mackmen have had. For example, when Wally Schang broke into the game he not only had Ira Thomas to help him, but he had pitchers who needed no assistance from their catchers. Bender, Plank and Coombs were with the Athletics when Schang made his triumphant entry in 1913. Schang learned more about catching from that trio of pitchers in one season than most catchers can pick up in five seasons. Every one of those hurlers was a master at that game, knew the batters perfectly and, best of all, was willing to help Wally or any other catcher.

Unfortunately, Perkins has not even one pitcher from whom he can learn. If he could have the benefit of catching such pitchers as those named he would unquestionably be one of the best in the game in a couple of seasons. As it is, he bids fair to be a splendid addition to the reconstructed Athletic team.

Patrick's Phillies Well Camouflaged

IN THESE hectic days of constant changes in the line-ups of major league ball clubs caused by the war it is difficult for the fans to keep pace with the personnel of the various teams. The younger element is being rapidly eliminated from the ball club rosters by the draft and to take their place new men from the minors are being tried out and veterans whose days in the big show otherwise would be over are given an opportunity to come back.

On top of all these changes some of our well-known dailies have made even more difficult for the fans by camouflaging the names of the players to an extent that would shame a professional on the western front.

Suppose you had been in Zanibar or St. Louis for a couple of years and came home to Philadelphia, picked up the morning paper and had attempted to decipher this box score, how would you translate this skinned cable line-up?

Ph't'd't'a
P't's,lf
B'n't,ss
M'Gf,2b
C'r'h,rf
L'd's,lf
M'l,cf
D'r'r,c
O'h'r,p

Ch'e'go
Pact,cf
Holl'r,ss
M'n,lf
P'n,rf
M'le,lf
D'al,3b
K'rff,2b
K'r,c
Car'l

Bert Niehoff Will Be Valuable Substitute

IN SPITE of the fact that Larry Doyle is out of the game, the New York Giants will not suffer from a lack of good second-basing. The deal whereby McGraw got the former Philly second baseman from the Cardinals insures the Giants of a steady fielder at the keystone position and a batter who, though not equal to Doyle the way he has been going this year, is dependable and better than the average in the pinches.

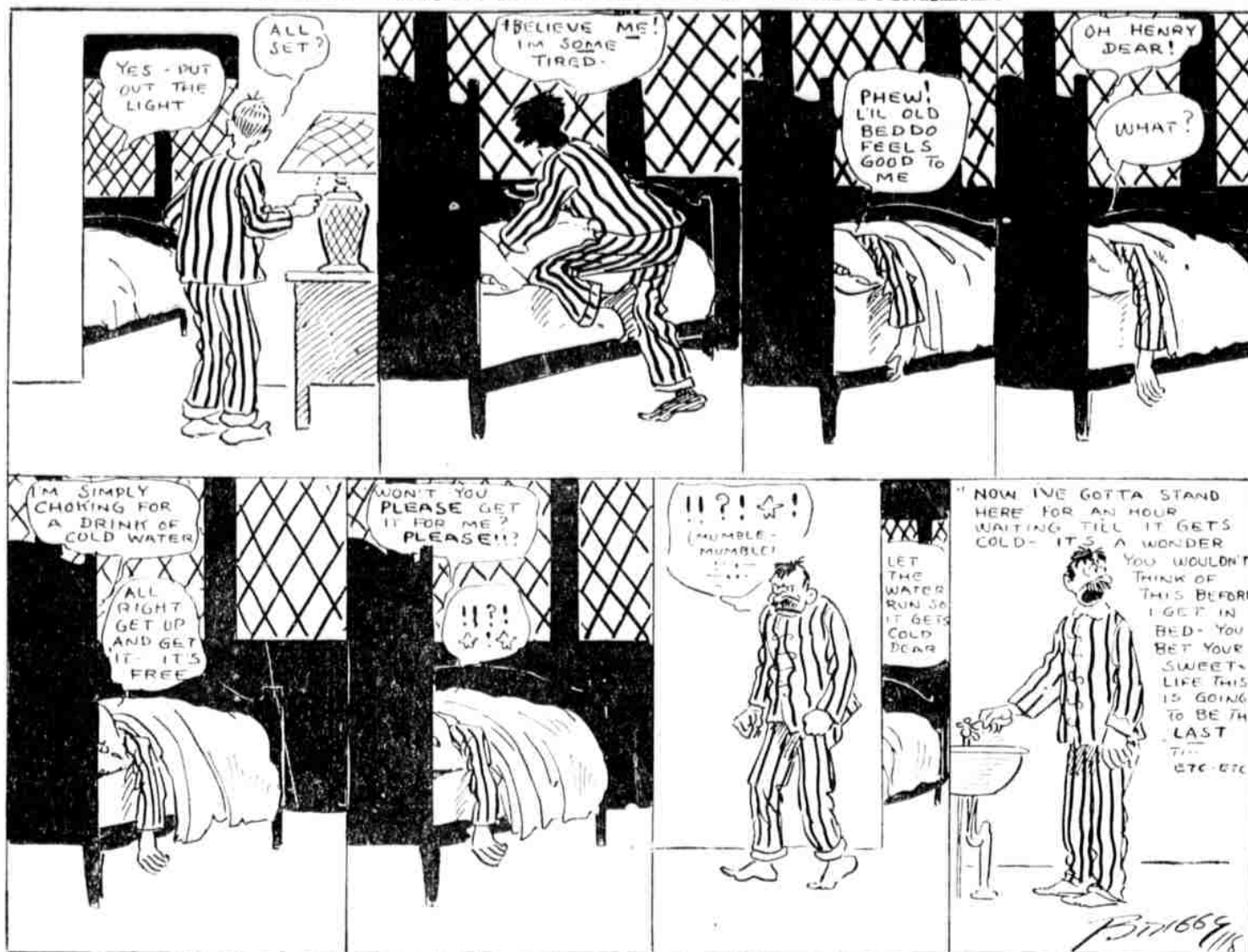
Niehoff did not make a big hit with Hendricks in St. Louis and it is this that led to the transaction in which Bert went to New York. According to the St. Louis dope, Niehoff was considered a slow thinker. It is true that he never was a Collins or a Barry at speedy brain-work, but certainly he was never noted for carrying concrete above the shoulders. However, Hendricks was not satisfied and Niehoff was benched recently because of an error of judgment. However, when he was put back in the line-up he did well and then Hendricks was not so anxious to have the deal go through. But he had gone so far with the New York management that there was no way to get out of it and he was forced to part with the man who would undoubtedly have made him a better second baseman than Betzel.

Griffith Has Proved to Be Real Patriot

CLARKE GRIFFITH has proved himself to be a real patriot. The excellence of his work for the bat and ball fund cannot be overestimated. This was to have been a big day in every major league park in the country, where each fan would have a chance to show what he thought of the cause for which America is fighting. Unfortunately, many of the games were rained off. However, the programs which were arranged for today in the various parks will be carried out tomorrow.

Nearly every letter that comes from France tells how the Americans are playing baseball. Necessarily they must have the equipment, and at present there is a glaring dearth of sporting paraphernalia abroad. Griffith's bat and ball fund is one of the ways in which General Pershing's overseas army can be supplied, and every baseball lover in this country should do his part. The men get what they need for carrying on their leagues and the army gets what it needs.

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES



TENDLER LEAVES EARLY FOR FIGHT

Star Southpaw Must Be in Cleveland Five Days Before Porkoni Battle

CLASH IN OPEN MAY 30

By JAMES S. CAROLAN

Low Tendler will make his first western invasion when he engages Vincent Porkoni in the wind-up to a star-studded show at the Cleveland baseball park on the night of May 29. This will be the Memorial Evening, and as decorations are in order that day, the night also should find the boys liberal with their decorating assortment of punches.

For making an early trip which necessitated leaving Hinkel's side, Tendler is being given an additional \$2000, bringing the guarantee to \$2000. This fight will be ten rounds and Low sees no reason why he should not be able to take good care of himself over this distance. Tendler has made good against the best and his recent win over Jackson and Bloom have done much to keep him in the spotlight.

Porkoni is anything but a set-up. He has turned back most of the eastern invaders, his most important conquest being at the expense of Frankie Callahan, defeating the New Yorker a few months ago quite decisively. Tendler also scored an unquestioned win over Callahan. The Cleveland box is a clean, fast, hard-hitting boy and one dangerous at all times.

Jackson vs. Brook

In addition to the Tendler-Porkoni engagement, two other high-class bouts will be put on the trip West to engage Matt Brook in a ten-round semi-main event. These boys are well matched. In the opening bout Joe Lynch and Jack (Kid) Wolfe will come together.

Banquet for Weinstein

Jack Weinstein, manager of Eddie O'Keefe and veteran handler of fighters, will be tendered a testimonial banquet at the Hotel Bingham on the night of May 28. Wherever testimonial dinners were held, Jack Weinstein always was present. He has been a great booster of clean boxing, and has done much for the sport.

CATHOLIC HIGH VICTORS OVER ST. JOSEPH'S PREP

Catholic High's speedy bunch of trackmen smothered St. Joseph's Prep yesterday under a score of 41 to 22. A heavy downpour stopped all progress in the last event of the day, the 100-yard dash.

100-yard dash—Won by Kehoe, St. Joseph's, second, Maley, R. C. H. S.; third, Smith, R. C. H. S. Time, 10.3 sec.

220-yard dash—Won by Kehoe, St. J.; second, Maley, R. C. H. S.; third, Smith, R. C. H. S. Time, 25 sec.

440-yard dash—Won by Devine, R. C. H. S.; second, Kehoe, St. J.; third, Miley, R. C. H. S. Time, 2:10.

800-yard dash—Won by Devine, R. C. H. S.; second, Friel, St. J.; third, Byrne, R. C. H. S. Time, 5:10.

One-mile run—Won by Byrne, R. C. H. S.; second, Laughlin, St. J.; third, Schuler, St. J. Time, 9:27.

3-mile run—Won by Smith, R. C. H. S.; second, Maley, R. C. H. S.; third, McShane, St. J. Time, 18:10.

Shot put—Won by Hendon, R. C. H. S.; second, Laughlin, St. J.; third, Neary, R. C. H. S. Distance, 34.6 ft.

Field Events

Broad jump—Won by Smith, R. C. H. S.; second, Maley, R. C. H. S.; third, McShane, St. J. Distance, 12 ft. 6 in.

Shot put—Won by Hendon, R. C. H. S.; second, Laughlin, St. J.; third, Neary, R. C. H. S. Distance, 34.6 ft.

WOODRING, MERCERSBURG SPRINTER, TO ENTER PENN

Star Prep School Runner Will Matriculate at Red and Blue Institution This Fall

By PAUL PREP

ALLAN WOODRING, that sensational sprinter of the Mercersburg Academy track team who has been on a record-breaking rampage during the last month, has decided to matriculate at Red and Blue University of Pennsylvania. Woodring will be graduated from the upstate prep school next year and will enter the Red and Blue institution next fall.

Woodring's rise in the athletic world has been of the meteoric type. He denied outdoor sports when for the first time last spring, under the excellent coaching of Jimmy Curran, however, he developed at a rapid pace and in the short time of three months he emerged from the novice to the scholastic championship class.

Double Winner

This year he has been one of the mainstays in the championship Mercersburg relay team. He was the most consistent performer on the squad, winning the two sprint events in every meet in which he participated. His greatest feat was in winning the 100-yard dash and the 200-yard dash at the University of Princeton interscholastic.

Should Develop

With such a great track record as Layton, Woodring is expected to develop into an all-around champion, and unless he loses some of his fleetness should establish new figures in the sprinting. With Bob Crawford, the Flushing High School champion, and Woodring as a nucleus, Robertson should have a winning freshman team next year.

During the summer months Woodring and Allan Seede, the distance runner extraordinary of the Mercersburg Academy, will wear the insignia of the Meadowbrook Club of this city. These two athletes alone are capable of scoring from fifteen to twenty points in every meet, and no doubt will greatly aid the John Wampler store organization win several team trophies.

Meadowbrook Strong

Last year the Meadowbrook Club won the track and field championships of the Middle Atlantic District of the A. A. U. finished second in the national high school championships of the Amateur Athletic Union.

Blanketing the Cubs 1 to 0 with six hits, Jack Coombs won a signal victory over Jim Vaughn, the wizard southpaw.

Joe Rodriguez, coach of the Giants in last season's World Series, was a hero in a run, then scored the safety tally himself.

Joe Jackson is going to tell his troubles to the manager.

Miley's triple and Chapman's sacrifice hit took the measure of the Red Sox for Cleveland.

The Reds coasted on an seven-inning record today and left St. Louis a better pitcher.

Rain kept six teams idle, but the fans will get bargain-basement prices later on.

Shaw walked a runner with the bases full.

Yerkes Signed by Cardinals

St. Louis, May 22.—Bruno Retzlaff, utility player with the St. Louis Cardinals, has been released to the Indianapolis club of the American Association. He goes to the minors in part payment for Steve Yerkes, second baseman who has signed a contract, although he has not played this season. Yerkes is expected to report June 1.

Haverford Tennis Men Win

Haverford, Pa., May 22.—The Haverford School tennis team won the last interscholastic tennis team match yesterday by defeating Camden High School, five matches to one. This puts the Chestnut Hill boys in third place in the interscholastic league. This is Haverford's first year in the league.

Villanova Victor

Villanova, Pa., May 22.—Villanova defeated Mount St. Joseph's College yesterday by the score of 5 to 1. The game was also won in a heavy rain, which slowed the game considerably.

Delahanty, pitching for Villanova, was in fine form, and except for a little wildness occasioned by the wet ball he held his opponents at bay. The batting of McGeehan and Murray featured.

Haverford Downs Chestnut Hill

Haverford, Pa., May 22.—The Haverford School baseball nine easily defeated the Chestnut Hill nine yesterday by the score of 8 to 3. Sellers and Humphries played a good game for Haverford, the former hitting three runs, the latter hitting two runs and five hits to their credit. But they could not hit at the opportune time.

PENN LOSES TWO MORE ATHLETES

Irwin and Smith, Track Men, Enlist—Gustafson in Poor Shape

HEEL IS REINFORCED

By JAMES S. CAROLAN

Lawson Robertson continues to lose athletes at Penn. Two more trackmen entered the service yesterday and another is in such poor shape that he will be handicapped greatly in the interval legiate championships, which will be held on Franklin Field May 31 and June 1.

Walt Irwin, who ran on the one-mile relay team in the Penn carnival and a quarter-mile counted upon for a few days in the third relay, was called to the naval reserve and left today for the Wapahamont Barracks. Frank Smith, a freshman, who showed promise of developing into a good hurdler, has joined the marines and will soon leave for Parris Island.

Irwin Third at Navy

Irwin was not a 144-foot high jumper, but he was considered good enough for fourth or fifth place in the title quarter. He finished third in the Annapolis meet, which was the only dual engagement of the season for the Red and Blue. Smith placed second in the high hurdles of the Cornell Fresh meet and was so close to the tape at the finish that many thought he had won. Added to the loss of these men is the fact that Marvin Tinsford, who is the best half-miler on the squad, is having considerable trouble with his heel, which has become reinforced. He was in the hospital Monday, but was out yesterday with a cane yesterday. He probably will be able to compete in the intercollegiate, but he is in such poor shape that he may be shut out of the scoring.

Brooks Also Out

Coach Robertson will have only two entries in that twenty-mile race of three, as he originally planned. Tom Brooks, who captained the championship cross-country team last fall, is going away on a trip and may not be available on June 1. Here is another point that has been lost to the Quakers. Brooks probably would have been able to place in his favorite event.

The freshman baseball game with Col. Accounting yesterday was stopped in the second inning by rain when the Red and Blue first-year students held the scoreless tie. It was the second time a 1-0-0 lead, it was the second time that a regulation tilt has been prevented between these two combinations. No definite arrangement has been made as yet to play off the contest.

A treat is in store for the Penn students tomorrow, when the freshmen try to upstage the varsity. There is much rivalry between the two squads and a thrilling contest should be produced. Walter Bernhard, the varsity twirler, will not be able to pitch, as he is being saved for the Yale game at New Haven Saturday. Joe Mitchell probably will hurt for the big team and Harvey for Coach Carrie's youngsters.

NORTHEAST NONLETER DEFEATS TRADES SCHOOL

The Northeast nonletter men easily defeated the Philadelphia Trades School in a dual meet held on Northeast track yesterday by the score of 41 to 19. The nonletter men won the 100-yard dash, the 220-yard dash, the mile run, the 440-yard dash, the half mile run, the mile run, the 1.6-mile run, the 2-mile run, the 3-mile run, the 4-mile run, the 5-mile run, the 6-mile run, the 7-mile run, the 8-mile run, the 9-mile run, the 10-mile run, the 11-mile run, the 12-mile run, the 13-mile run, the 14-mile run, the 15-mile run, the 16-mile run, the 17-mile run, the 18-mile run, the 19-mile run, the 20-mile run, the 21-mile run, the 22-mile run, the 23-mile run, the 24-mile run, the 25-mile run, the 26-mile run, the 27-mile run, the 28-mile run, the 29-mile run, the 30-mile run, the 31-mile run, the 32-mile run, the 33-mile run, the 34-mile run, the 35-mile run, the 36-mile run, the 37-mile run, the 38-mile run, the 39-mile run, the 40-mile run, the 41-mile run, the 42-mile run, the 43-mile run, the 44-mile run, the 45-mile run, the 46-mile run, the 47-mile run, the 48-mile run, the 49-mile run, the 50-mile run, the 51-mile run, the 52-mile run, the 53-mile run, the 54-mile run, the 55-mile run, the 56-mile run, the 57-mile run, the 58-mile run, the 59-mile run, the 60-mile run, the 61-mile run, the 62-mile run, the 63-mile run, the 64-mile run, the 65-mile run, the 66-mile run, the 67-mile run, the 68-mile run, the 69-mile run, the 70-mile run, the 71-mile run, the 72-mile run, the 73-mile run, the 74-mile run, the 75-mile run, the 76-mile run, the 77-mile run, the 78-mile run, the 79-mile run, the 80-mile run, the 81-mile run, the 82-mile run, the 83-mile run, the 84-mile run, the 85-mile run, the 86-mile run, the 87-mile run, the 88-mile run, the 89-mile run, the 90-mile run, the 91-mile run, the 92-mile run, the 93-mile run, the 94-mile run, the 95-mile run, the 96-mile run, the 97-mile run, the 98-mile run, the 99-mile run, the 100-mile run.

Dude Paskert is still hammering the ball hard.

The renowned outfielder cracked out a single and a double in the game where he has his very latest as scarce as germanophone speeches in Congress.

Joe Wood once again soared to great heights as he hit a home run.

Lee Magee had a personally conducted field day yesterday. He stole a base, accepted five chances out of five, and ripped out four singles in five trips to the bat.

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DOWNPOUR OF SKY JUICE HALTS A'S AND DEPRIVES TIGERS OF STRAW LIDS

Connie's Mackerels Were About to Establish Winning Streak When Leak Occurs—How Cy Williams Signed the Papers

AN UNTIMELY and unrelieved downpour of sky juice marred what was to have been a gala occasion at Shibe Park yesterday. Our A's were about to establish a winning streak of two straight games and the lineups were all ready to be attached to the titillating Tigers when the heavens cracked in a moist and vulnerable spot and the stuff was off. Captain Rick Coombs said so and his word was law.

It's pretty tough to get soaked on the field of battle, especially when you are two runs to the good and have an opportunity to score another. Connie wanted to win that ball game and inserted Veon Gregg and his trusty southpaw for that very purpose. Veon was going good before that flood, holding the foe to two bingles, one of which was handed to Ty Cobb on a surprising decision by his umpire. In the meantime the Mackerels had eluded Kallin for seven safeties, scored two runs, had a man on second, with one out, in the fourth and the (discontinued-in-fourth) sign was hung up.

Straw Hats Are Lost

The Detroit players were not at all pleased over the postponement, for they too had designs on the conflict and planned to fight to the last ditch to gain a victory. But they had a good reason.

Before Monday's game Huggins Jennings called his men together and slipped them a stirring address something like this:

"Men, summer is here and you are probably saving your pennies to buy straw hats. All ballplayers must wear straw hats, especially in the summer time, and I realize it. Now, you needn't put away any kake for the kids, for I will purchase them for you. All you need to do is win three of the four games from the Athletics."

Tigers Are Sad

Therefore, the boys felt sad and disappointed last night. They had lost one game, another was postponed and only two remained to be played. What a shame!

CLIVEDENS EASILY WIN FROM FRANKFORD HIGH

Germantown High School made it two straight victories yesterday by smothering Frankford under a veritable avalanche of hits and runs. The final score of the contest, which was played at Waterview, was 19 to 5.

Cliveden, who featured with several stars, defeated Frankford by a score of 19 to 5. The final score of the contest, which was played at Waterview, was 19 to 5.

Contract Is Satisfactory

"How about the contract?" asked Baker.

"What do you think?" was Cy's reply.

"I'll give you the same salary you received from Chicago," replied Baker, "which means you will not be cut one cent." In addition to that, I will pay you from the start of the season.

Williams readily signed and then went back home to fix things up while he was away with the ball club.

ST. COLUMBA TO HAVE FAST BASEBALL TEAM

American Cage Champions Will Be Led by Jimmy Coffey

After a successful season in basketball, the St. Columba Club has organized a fast baseball team. Jimmy Coffey, who managed the championship cage team, has been selected to manage the team and at present is busy arranging a schedule. The team will open its new season with an outing on June 1, when it will play the first home game with a team that is to be selected in short order.

Scrap About Scrappers

Oscar Anderson, the Danish champion, who recently arrived in this country, has engaged K. O. Hill, a local fighter, for a fight at the local arena. Anderson is a former world champion and Hill is a local fighter.

Jack Weinstein, manager of Eddie O'Keefe, is again on the war path. He is looking for a fight with a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Angie Ratner, the New York middleweight champion, is in a local fight with a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Phil Bloom will be seen in action at the local arena, where he will fight a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Leo Flynn, manager of Kid Norfolk, wants to know who Jack Dempsey's best fighter is. Flynn is a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Frank Donato, manager of Frankie Williams, wants to know who Jack Dempsey's best fighter is. Donato is a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Benj. McCoy, the Baltimore bantam, has been matched to meet Eddie O'Keefe, a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Battling Reddy, now under the management of Trick Curry, would like to meet Pettibone, a local fighter, who is a former world champion.

Wally Moshan, the coast heavyweight, who has fought in this city many times, has been divorced from his wife.

Tommy Gibbons, of St. Paul and Gus Christie, of Milwaukee, have been matched to box fifteen rounds in St. Paul on May 24.

Eddie Hays, the fighting Boy Scout, is anxious to return to the ring after an absence of over two years, and he would like to meet Bobby Burns, of this city.

Frankie Cline has been matched to meet Young Terry in a return bout at the Columbia on June 3.

Almy Dunder and Eddie Morgan will be the contestants in the final bout to a classy program at the Olympia on May 24. The semifinal will show two middleweights of class, Chuck Wiggins, of Indianapolis, and K. O. Loughlin, of Chicago.

Abie Atell and Young Corbett, two former featherweights, will meet in a local fight for the first time at the big Red Cross Field Day at the Chestnut Hill stadium on Monday afternoon. They will box a three-round exhibition.

The Army A. A. of Jersey City, has completed its card for its opening show next Monday night. In feature bout of eight rounds Frankie Callahan, of Brooklyn, will meet Jimmy Duffy, of the West Side.

SHIBE PARK BASEBALL TODAY ATHLETICS vs. DETROIT

GAME CALLED AT 3:45 P. M. Tickets at Gimbel Bros' and Spalding's

A. A. U. TOURNAMENT Benefit Country Club for Enlisted Men—May 23rd and 31st

Entries open to all 15th and 16th Chestnut

Phila. Jack O'Brien's Admission 50 Cts.

ROTARY ARMY & NAVY CLUB Boxing Tournament, May 23rd and 24th

Send Phila. Jack O'Brien 15th and 16th Chestnut

SHIBE PARK BASEBALL TODAY ATHLETICS vs. DETROIT

GAME CALLED AT 3:45 P. M. Tickets at Gimbel Bros' and Spalding's

A presentation of baseball outfits from Clark Griffith's Sons